Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (Cancelled).

3(Currently amended). A transgenic mouse having integrated in its genome a nucleic acid construct, comprising a ~~mammalian T-cell lineage specific promoter~~ human CD2 promoter and a human CD2 locus control region operably linked to a mammalian Glucocorticoid Induced Leucine-Zipper (GILZ) cDNA sequence, wherein said transgenic mouse expresses GILZ in ~~its T-cell lineage~~ thymocytes at an elevated level compared to a non-transgenic mouse and wherein the elevated expression of GILZ results in a significant decrease in $CD4^+$ $CD8^+$ double positive cells and increase in $CD4^-$ $CD8^-$ double negative cells~~,~~ and $CD8^+$ single positive cells ~~and $CD4^+$ single positive cells~~ when compared with a non-transgenic mouse.

Claims 4-16 (Cancelled).

17(Currently amended). A method for screening compounds ~~having glucocorticoid related effects~~ which induce apoptosis in thymocytes, comprising:

administering a potential candidate compound to a transgenic mouse of claim 3, and to a control non-transgenic mouse; and

determining whether said potential candidate compound ~~exhibits glucocorticoid-related effects~~ induces apoptosis in thymocytes by comparing the effects of the administration of said potential candidate to said transgenic mouse and to said control non-transgenic mouse.

Claim 18(Cancelled).

19(Currently amended). A method of producing a transgenic mouse whose genome comprises a nucleic acid construct, wherein said construct comprises a ~~mammalian T-cell lineage-specific promoter~~ human CD2 promoter and a human CD2 locus control region operably linked to a mammalian Glucocorticoid Induced leucine-Zipper (GILZ) cDNA sequence, said method comprising:

transferring a nucleic acid construct comprising a ~~mammalian T-cell lineage-specific promoter~~ human CD2 promoter and a human CD2 locus control region operably linked to a mammalian GILZ cDNA sequence to a fertilized mouse oocyte;

allowing the zygote resulting from the fertilized mouse oocyte to develop to term, thereby obtaining a transgenic mouse whose genome comprises the nucleic acid construct;

breeding said transgenic mouse with a non-transgenic mouse to generate offspring; and

selecting from the offspring a transgenic mouse whose genome comprises the nucleic acid construct, wherein said transgenic mouse expresses ~~GILR~~ GILZ in ~~the T-cell lineage~~ thymocytes at an elevated level compared to a non-transgenic mouse and wherein the expression of GILZ results in a significant decrease in $CD4^+$ $CD8^+$ double positive cells and increase in $CD4^-$ $CD8^-$ double negative cells, and $CD8^+$ single positive cells ~~and $CD4^+$ single positive cells~~ when compared with a non-transgenic mouse.

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

21(Previously presented). The transgenic mouse of claim 3, wherein said mammalian GILZ cDNA sequence is selected from the group consisting of mouse and human GILZ cDNA sequences.

22(New). A transgenic mouse having integrated in its genome a nucleic acid construct, comprising a mammalian T-cell lineage specific promoter operably linked to a mammalian Glucocorticoid Induced Leucine-Zipper (GILZ) cDNA sequence,

wherein said transgenic mouse expresses GILZ in thymocytes at an elevated level compared to a non-transgenic mouse and wherein the elevated expression of GILZ results in an accelerated, increased caspase-3 activation.

23(New). The transgenic mouse according to claim 22, wherein said mammalian T-cell lineage specific promoter comprises a human CD2 promoter and a human CD2 locus control region.